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Attorney's Docket 117040-57

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEApplicant: Valet, et al.Examiner: UnknownSer. No.: 10/088,008Art Group: UnknownTitle: OPTICAL METHOD FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF PARTICULATE SYSTEMS AND DEVICE FOR CARRYING OUT THE METHODFiled: 13 March 2002Date: 18 June 2002PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is filed with the filing of the missing parts in the above case, which claims priority from an application filed in Germany as 101 10 358.1 on 27 February 2001. The fees for the claims should be calculated based on the claims remaining after the entry of this Preliminary Amendment, which results in 26 total and 3 independent claims. Because the initial specification filed was in German and a verified translation is provided herewith, a substitute specification under 37 CFR §1.125 is provided instead of a clean copy of the amendments made below.

Amendments to the Disclosure

The specification as filed has been altered from the literal translation document received to delete information above the title, to insert headings according to US practice, and to insert paragraph numbering in lieu of line numbering. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

An [The invention concerns an] optical method and an associated device is provided for characterization of particulate systems, with which the particles present in a particulate system, for example a clean room, can be detected in respect of quantity and size and at the same time information about the identity of the particles can be provided. An [In accordance with the invention an] air flow from the ambient air is guided at a defined speed by a particle feeder past a first scattered light measuring unit and the scattered light is detected, the speed of the particle is